

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

*RONALD J. TENPAS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY*

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

SEPTEMBER 20, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on September 7, 2005, **RONALD D. BOND**, age 38, and **KEITH A. KIMMEL** age 44, both of Murphysboro, Illinois, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment, charging them with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. The violation took place between August 2004, and September 2, 2005, in Jackson County, Illinois. An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury. Both BOND and KIMMEL are being held without bond pending a November 7, 2005, jury trial.

The offense carries a penalty of between 5 and 40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of 4 years supervised release.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses. The Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, Jackson County States Attorney's Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Carbondale Police Department, and Southern Illinois Enforcement Group. The United States Marshals Service also assisted in the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.